

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/056,656

Examiner

MANSOUR M SAID

Applicant(s)

SHAH-NAZAROFF, ANTHONY A.

Art Unit

2673

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address–

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/9/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-46 and renumbered as 1-46.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 8/4/04 & 11/24/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gordon Lindeen on January 25, 2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 24 and 34 as follows

Claim 24. A wireless remote control unit for an entertainment system comprising: a sensor unit that generates an active signal ~~to display a pointer on a display device of the entertainment system~~ independent of the selection of any position direction, any command, and any option; and a transmission unit, coupled to the navigation unit, to transmit the active signal to a wireless receiver of an entertainment system, the active signal being transmitted to display a pointer on a display device of the entertainment system, the pointer being hidden on the display device before the active signal is transmitted to allow video images on the display device to be displayed unobstructed by the pointer.

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Claim 34. A pointing device, comprising: a navigation unit to generate position signals indicating where a pointer is to be directed on a display device; a selection unit to generate selection signals indicating when a selection is made; a sensor unit, independent of the navigation unit and the selection unit, to generate an active signal indicating that the pointing device is being handled; and a transmission unit coupled to the navigation unit, the selection unit and the sensor unit to receive the position signals, the selection signals and the active signal and transmit them to a remote location; the active signal being transmitted to display a pointer on the display device, the pointer being hidden on the display device before the active signal is transmitted to allow images on the display device to be displayed unobstructed by the pointer.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The application having been allowed, formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.

4. Claims 1-46 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art of record either singularly or in combination teaches or fairly suggests a computer system comprising a bus; a display device coupled to the bus to display video images, a processor coupled to the bus; a wireless communications interface coupled to the bus; and a device driver coupled to the wireless communications interface, the device driver, including a pointer display unit to display a pointer on the display device in response to an active signal received from the wireless communications interface, the active signal being independent of any position direction and any option selection, a transmission unit coupled to the navigation unit to

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transmit the active signal to a wireless receiver of an entertainment system, and the pointer display unit also to stop displaying the pointer in response to not receiving the active signal to allow video images to be displayed on the display device unobstructed by the pointer.

Autry et al. (5,724,106) teach hand-held remote control, optical trackball is integrated into the remote, and functions just as any other pointing device for personal computers, generating cursor control signals that are transmitted to the personal computer. The cursor control device is a miniature joystick disposed on a top portion of the remote control. Hand held remote also contains RF generating circuitry coupled to all the keys, the trigger and the pointing device for generating RF signals corresponding to the keys pressed, the status of the trigger, and the movements of the pointing device for reception by RF circuitry.

Strok et al. (6,104,380) teach a wireless cursor control device, position sensors and optical sensor determines motion in three dimensions as well as the distance between the cursor control device and the screen. This allows accurate determination of the intersection between the screen and the line of the pointing of the cursor control device. Thus, accurate cursor control may be obtained through use of a cursor control device that is not physically connected to the display device or the hardware that provides network access.

However, the references do not teach the claimed limitation such as “pointer display unit to display a pointer on the display device in response to an active signal received from the wireless communications interface, the active signal being independent of any position direction and any option selection, a transmission unit coupled to the navigation unit to transmit the active signal to a wireless receiver of an entertainment system, and the pointer display unit also to stop

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displaying the pointer in response to not receiving the active signal to allow video images to be displayed on the display device unobstructed by the pointer”.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Mansour M. Said** whose telephone number is **(703) 306-5411**.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Shalwala Bipin**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4938**.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal


Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

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8. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

1/27/05

Mansour M. Said



BIPIN SHALWALA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600